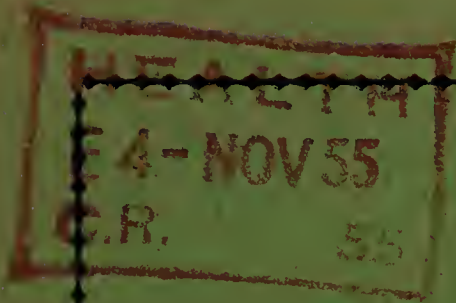


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UTTOXETER
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
and of the Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR 1954

AUGUST, 1955

ANNUAL REPORT

Council Offices,
Holly Dene,
High Street,
Uttoxeter, Staffs.

August, 1955

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Uttoxeter Urban District Council*

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Herbert and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Uttoxeter Urban District for the year 1954.

This report is prepared on the lines indicated by the Ministry of Health Circular 28/54 (England), dated the 15th December, 1954.

Vital Statistics

In the Uttoxeter Urban District the birth rate, 13.4 per 1,000 estimated population, although lower than the birth rate in your district during 1953, 16.2 per 1,000 estimated population, and is lower than the average rate of the eleven previous years, 18.2 per 1,000 estimated population, was lower than the birth rate of 15.2 per 1,000 population with regard to the country as a whole. On the other hand, the death rate for your district during 1954, 11.16 per 1,000 estimated population, although lower than the death rate for 1953, which was 11.36 per 1,000, was lower than the death rate, 11.3 per 1,000 population, for England and Wales.

The infant mortality rate is 9.9 per 1,000. The decrease in the Infant Mortality Rate was due to the decrease in the number of infants under one year and under four weeks dying from birth malformations, broncho-pneumonia and prematurity.

The stillbirth rate is 0.13 per 1,000. This rate has decreased and it is the lowest recorded in the last eleven years. The causes in this area are: (1) Complicated labour; (2) maternal disease; (3) toxemia (maternal).

During the year 36 babies were vaccinated—35.6% of the babies born that year were vaccinated, an increase.

101 babies were born during 1954—37 were born at their own homes and 64 in Maternity Homes outside your area, mainly at Ashbourne Maternity Home.

Ten adults were re-vaccinated during 1954.

The Effective Reproductive Rate for England and Wales has not been published but for this District is 0.9. This means there is a slight decrease in the population.

During 1954, 54 children under 3 years of age received protective inoculation against Whooping Cough.

15.4% of children (0-3 years) have therefore received this form of protection in the first year of this new scheme.

Housing

Since the end of the war this Council has erected 286 houses, and others (50) are in course of erection. The number of houses constructed by this Council for aged people before the war and since are 18 and 12. The number of houses built and under construction during the year is recorded in the body of this report.

In general, the Council's policy has been to house as many married couples with children who are lodgers, as possible, and to re-house those living in accommodation which falls below modern housing standards.

Water Supply

I have given a brief resume of the position in 1954 in the section entitled "Water Supply."

Public Health and Clean Food Exhibition

During 1954 no actual exhibition was held, but letters of advice were sent to all food shops, canteens and cafes regarding cleanliness of staff and of the premises ; the card regarding dogs in food shops was displayed.

Conclusion

I personally record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their kindness to me since I became the Medical Officer of Health, and to all the officials of the Council who gave me their support and help in compiling this Annual Report.

1. The percentage of children under 5 and from 5—14 years has decreased with regard to Diphtheria Inoculation.
2. The total percentage for all children (all ages) immunised, has decreased from 90% to 84.6%.
3. A slight decrease in average number of persons per house.
4. A slight increase in the Vaccination Rate. I feel a Vaccination Drive is a necessity.
5. The Estimated Population for Mid-June, 1954, is slightly below the actual population by 72.
6. Through the courtesy of Mr. S. Elkes, J.P., and Mr. Smith I have been able to include a local weather summary.
7. It is with regret that I have to inform you that the Registrar General has decided not to supply certain details for 1954 which include :—
 - (i) Birth Rate, Death Rate and Analysis of Mortality for England and Wales and for certain sections of the community.
 - (ii) Also for case rates for Infectious Diseases for the same sections of the Country.I have been able to get certain of the above details but only a few.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Herbert and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. W. M. BATTERSBY

Health and Highways Committee, 1954

Chairman

Councillor J. R. ODDIE, M.B., Ch.B.

Members

Councillor H. Bowring	Councillor Mrs. D. Herbert
„ W. Clarke (retired May, 1954).	„ G. J. W. Moseley, J.P.
„ D. Crutchley	„ T. Orme
„ A. O. Davies	„ W. Preston
„ G. H. DeVille	„ W. Rushton
„ S. H. Elkes, J.P.	„ H. J. Ryder (from May 1954)
„ G. Elliott, J.P.	„ C. J. Tunncliffe
	„ H. Thomas

Medical Officer of Health

A. W. M. BATTERSBY, L.R.C.P. and S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector

S. S. PROUD, M.I.Mun.E., A.R.C.S., Cert.R.S.I.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1954

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area	(Acres)	3,351
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population (Mid 1954)		7,530
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1954 according to Rate Books		2,369
Rateable Value		£41,928
Sum represented by the product of 1d. rate		£165 9s. 5d.
Number of persons per acre		2.24
Number of houses per acre		0.73
Average number of persons per house		3.17
Number of Council Houses including 14 cottage property owned by the Council		741

The Urban District Council of Uttoxeter consists of a prosperous country town, which, by reason of its central position, is called on to provide the marketing, shopping and other facilities for the large agricultural, and more especially, dairying countryside which surrounds it. There is, therefore, in your district an important Cattle Market, and each week a large open-air produce market is set up in the Market Square of the town. These markets are well attended, so that there is an influx of numerous people into your district on market days and, to a lesser extent, on Saturdays.

Your district contains four large secondary schools, and, as educational policy has been to centralise this stage of education, an increasing number of scholars are brought into town by 'bus on each school day.

In Uttoxeter there is no Nursery School. I feel the provision of a Nursery School would be an asset and would be appreciated by the mothers of children from 3 years to 5 years. I feel a school for about 100 children could easily be filled, if a suitable site could be found.

In the town there are 432 children between 0 and under 5—0—2 years, 144 ; 2—3 years, 14 ; 3—5 years, 274.

In addition to an extensive agricultural implement factory, there are situated in your District a large and up-to-date biscuit factory, an important manufacturing dairy, a laundry and a gas works, all of which provide for most of the male and female labour in your district, and also, to some extent, a corset factory.

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Live Births (Factor — 1.01)	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	54	41	95
Illegitimate	2	4	6
	56	45	101

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	13.4
Adjusted Birth Rate	13.5

Stillbirths	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	—	1	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			9.8
			(England and Wales—24)
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 estimated population			0.13

Deaths (Factor—1.02)	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
	44	40	84
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population			11.16
Adjusted Death Rate			11.3
Death from Puerperal Causes			Nil

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	—	1	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births	9.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	9.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	—	1	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	10
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	Nil
Deaths from Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	Nil

**Principal Causes of Death
Uttoxeter Urban District, 1954**

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Heart Diseases	21	13	34
Diseases of Vascular System	—	1	1
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	8	6	14
Cancer	1	9	10
Pneumonia (Secondary)	—	3	3
Bronchitis	3	2	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	—	—
Influenza	1	—	1
Surgical Tuberculosis	—	—	—
Other Infectious Diseases	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	3	3
Maternal Causes	—	—	—
Congenital Malformities	—	1	1
Road Accidents	1	—	1
Suicide	1	—	1
Fatal Accidents	1	—	1
Diseases of Prostate	2	—	2
Nephritis	2	—	2
Diseases of Stomach	1	—	1
All Other Causes	2	2	4
	44	40	84

Of the total deaths—68 died at home.
16 died in hospitals.

The Congenital Malformation causing death was : Congenital Heart Disease.

Uttoxeter Urban District Council
Vital Statistics for the Year 1954 and the
Eleven Previous Years

Year	Rates per 1,000 Estimated Population.			Rate per 1,000 Live Births.
	Birth Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Death Rate
1954	13.4	0.13	11.16	9.9
1953	16.2	0.94	11.36	36.9
1952	14.9	0.94	12.36	16.5
1951	13.4	0.37	12.4	16.5
1950	13.9	0.40	12.41	17.6
1949	16.53	0.536	11.82	24.39
1948	20.33	1.24	12.36	87.84
1947	22.80	0.43	14.20	62.89
1946	21.20	0.72	11.10	55.17
1945	21.15	0.15	14.24	28.57
1944	21.35	0.15	9.40	13.79
1943	19.47	1.02	10.17	37.31

Cancer Deaths

Noted below are the total annual deaths from Cancer according to sex with respect to your district during 1954 and the eleven previous years. The percentage which these Cancer deaths formed of the total deaths each year is also shown.

Cancer of Lungs : One Male.

Year	Male	Female	Total	Percentage of total deaths
1954	1	9	10	11.9%
1953	11	4	15	17.8%
1952	9	7	16	17.3%
1951	5	5	10	10.7%
1950	6	9	15	8.7%
1949	2	6	8	9.2%
1948	11	7	18	20%
1947	8	7	15	15%
1946	5	6	11	15%
1945	7	4	11	12%
1944	4	8	12	19%
1943	5	4	9	13%

Site of Cancer :—

Cancer of Lungs	1 (Male)
Cancer of Breast	1 (Female)
Cancer of Stomach	1 (Female)
Cancer of Gall Bladder	1 (Female)

Cancer of Colon	1 (Female)
Cancer of Bladder	1 (Female)
Others	4 (Females)

Population Estimates for Mid 1954

(Published by permission of the Registrar General)

Total Population	7530
Children—Aged 0 to 4 years	432
	(Health Visitor)
Aged 5 to 14 years	1263
	(Schools)
Old People (Pension Age), obtained from a house to house survey)	915
1951 Census—7740	

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality

Details for England and Wales given where known

	<i>Uttoxeter Urban District</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—		
Births		
Live Births	13.4	15.2
Still Births	0.13	0.36
Deaths		
All Causes	11.16	11.3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	0.239
Diphtheria	—	0.01
Tuberculosis	—	0.18
Influenza	0.1	N.K.
Smallpox	—	N.K.
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioence- phalitis	—	0.03
Pneumonia	0.3	0.60
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—		
Deaths		
All Causes under 1 year of age	9.9	25.5
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	Nil.	N.K.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

In so far as your District is concerned, laboratory facilities were available during 1954 in the County Town of Stafford, some

14 miles distant. Specimens and samples submitted to these laboratories for investigation were transmitted mainly by 'bus, both by the Medical Practitioners in your District and by this Department.

Ambulance Facilities (An Area Health Function)

During 1954 a 24 hours service has been maintained by the Staffordshire County Ambulance Service.

There are six ambulance cars stationed at Uttoxeter—two can be adapted for sitting cases, also one Civil Defence Ambulance.

Since October, 1951, the new ambulance station at Heath House has been in use—three vehicles are kept there, three are garaged each night at Messrs. Atkey's Garage, and one at Messrs. Richardson's.

The Uttoxeter area ambulance staff, consists of a personnel of 17 men, and the day is divided into three periods of eight hours.

One ambulance car was replaced during 1954 by a new Daimler Ambulance.

Home Nursing (An Area Health Function)

In your area there are two general nurses, one full-time midwife and one full-time Health Visitor.

The service is efficient and is available to the residents in the Urban area, by whom it is generally appreciated. The Health Visitor was in attendance during the year at all sessions held at the various clinics at the centre, and also present at the school medical inspections, which were continued at the schools in the Urban area during 1954.

HOSPITALS, TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

Hospitals

There are no Hospitals in the Uttoxeter Urban District, and, as in previous years, the arrangements in this connection were as follows :—

Infectious Diseases.—During 1954 the majority of the cases of infectious diseases were treated at Bucknall Isolation Hospital, which is under the Stoke Regional Hospital Board. When accommodation was not available, the cases were admitted to Derby Isolation Hospital.

General Medical and Surgical Cases.—Patients suffering from medical and surgical conditions on account of which they required to be admitted to hospital went mainly to the infirmaries at Derby, Stoke-on-Trent, Stafford and Burton-on-Trent. Whereas, under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary at Derby was included in the Sheffield Hospital Region, the other three infirmaries referred to above were situated in the Birmingham Hospital Region. Nevertheless, it is possible for patients from Uttoxeter to be admitted to any of these hospitals irrespective of the administrative boundary.

Tuberculosis Beds.—Provision for the institutional treatment of patients suffering from this disease is the responsibility of the appropriate Regional Hospital Board. The shortage of nursing staff, and especially of staff trained and willing to nurse this type of case, has been reflected in the waiting lists for sanatoria and in the difficulty which medical practitioners have experienced in having such cases removed from their homes. Your district has, of course, not suffered any more in this connection than other parts of the country. It is to be hoped, however, that the improvement in the recruitment of nurses which is now taking place will very shortly result in some alleviations of this very serious state of affairs.

Maternity and Gynaecological Cases.—These cases are mainly admitted to the Derbyshire Hospital for Women, the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent, and the Ashbourne Maternity Home.

During 1953 an attempt was made, through the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, for a Local Maternity Unit, but it was not successful.

CLINICS

Tuberculosis Dispensary.—As the Local Centre was closed in 1953, the patients now attend the Stafford Centre by appointment. All are visited in their homes by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

Minor Ailments Clinic.—The Local Education Authority, the Staffordshire County Council, during 1954 continued to provide a Minor Ailments Clinic.

This clinic is held at the New Uttoxeter Centre at Heath House on a Friday morning.

Infant Welfare Centre.—The Staffordshire County Council during 1954 as the local Health Authority, provided an Infant Welfare Centre in Uttoxeter, at which sessions were held each Friday afternoon at Heath House Centre.

Ante-Natal Clinic.—An Ante-Natal Clinic is provided in your district in a similar manner to the Infant Welfare Centre by the Staffordshire County Council. Sessions are held fortnightly on Friday afternoons. A midwife attends each session ; also at Heath House Centre.

Dental Clinic.—Every Saturday Morning a Dental Session is held for the treatment of school children, expectant mothers and nursing mothers. This clinic serves the Urban and Rural Districts of Uttoxeter. Urgent cases can be sent besides the cases arranged to attend for treatment. This clinic is held in the New Uttoxeter Centre, Heath House.

Home and Domestic Help Service (Area Health Function).—The year under review was the seventh complete year during which a Home and Domestic Help Service was in operation in Uttoxeter. The service is conducted by the local Health Authority as part of its Domestic Help Service provided under permissive powers deriving from Section 29 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

This is one of the services provided under the National Health Service Act for which the local health authority, with the approval of the Minister, may recover from persons availing themselves of it, such charges (if any) as the authority considers reasonable, having regard to the means of those persons. This entails, in those cases in which the applicant states that he is unable to pay the full amount, an assessment of income and the application of a scale which results in the charge (if any) which is made for the services of a Help, related to what the individual is able to pay. The outcome of this was that, while those who could afford to pay for the service were asked to do so, the services of a Help did not require to be foregone by any genuine case which required a Help simply because of financial considerations. In some cases no charge is made for this service. There are eleven part-time Helpers, and 23 cases have been assessed in 1954.

The service has been a success and is appreciated by those who make use of it—the demand is still growing.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Public Cleansing

During 1954, as in previous years, the collection and disposal of refuse continued to be dealt with in your district. A controlled tip was in use throughout the year, and as a result of careful attention to the method of tipping, along with the use of a sufficiency of covering material, the state of the tip was generally satisfactory and no serious nuisance arose. The tip is sited on Council land near the Sewage Works.

The cost of removal of domestic and trade waste has increased. The number of houses and business premises dealt with are 2,369 and 263. Owing to labour shortage and sickness, it was not possible to provide a weekly service, and distance to tip plays a part. A larger vehicle is now in use; this has helped to improve the rate of collection.

Sanitary Inspections

Numerous inspections have been made during the year and 76 informal notices were served—all “defects” were remedied or abated. During the year a number of houses without bathrooms and indoor W.C.’s have now had such facilities installed, and also hot water provided where no such facilities existed, by gas or electric heating units.

Complaints have been received from tenants to the effect that the landlord would not carry out certain repairs. Such cases have been investigated and a letter was sent to the landlord, who then agreed to do the essential repair. The sanitary conveniences for both sexes have been considerably improved in a number of the licensed premises in this area. Regarding the condemned houses let under licence by the Council, an endeavour is now being made not to re-let them as they become vacant, when an area of several

houses becomes vacated, it is the intention of the Council to have them demolished. 21 houses are at present licensed.

Rodent Control

The procedure laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, is being carried out by a part-time rodent officer. The public have been co-operative. In many cases the owners of a business and the Council have acted jointly. Farms are also inspected.

Water Supply

All water supplied to the public is chlorinated. The quality of the chlorinated water has been satisfactory, but there has again been a shortage of supply in the higher parts of the supply area. The water supplied is not liable to Plumbo-solvent action. The number of dwelling houses supplied direct is 2,331 and the number of persons supplied direct is 7,411. No houses supplied by means of a standpipe. There are a certain number of houses supplied by means of an outside tap, which are gradually being reduced by informal arrangements with the owners to provide an indoor supply. 44 houses in your area have their own private supply.

A better distribution of the water is now available, due to the laying of a new 10in. main from Bramshall Reservoir down Byrds Lane, to be linked up with the existing 7in. and 5in. mains in Holly Road. (Completed in 1953).

A new chlorinating plant has been installed at Somersal and this plant also treats the water with a Soda Ash to reduce its acidity.

The boosting plant has now been installed for the purpose of giving a regular supply of water to the village of Bramshall by agreement with the Uttoxeter Rural District Council.

Hulme Springs.—The six trial bore holes, each of 8in., diameter have been completed and gave encouraging results—permission is now being sought to sink three of these boreings to a depth of 100 feet and increasing their diameter to 12 inches.

Crumppwood Waterworks

An electric pump unit has been installed and a new chlorinating plant is on order.

Water consumption has now been reduced to 31 gallons per head per day, due to Waste Detection and the Metering of Trade supplies.

School Water Supply.—The water pressure at the Infant School is frequently low ; no complaints have been received from the Secondary Schools regarding water pressure.

Swimming Bath.—Due to the cost of replacement, it was decided at a more opportune time to provide an up-to-date swimming bath. There is no doubt that a strong demand for such a bath exists, and I feel this provision should be considered at an early date, but the cost will be high.

Water Analysis

Analyses, both chemical and bacteriological, have been carried out at regular intervals on samples of water from your district mains supply. During 1954 the reports of such analyses were consistently satisfactory for Crumpwood, Somersal and Bramshall supply, and specimen reports are appended below. The following are reports on samples taken during 1954.—

Crumpwood Water After Chlorination

From Pump Well

<i>Chemical Analysis</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F.	22.2
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	0.08
Chlorine	1.5
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	Nil
Appearance	Trace of suspended matter
Injurious Metallic Contamination	Nil
pH Value	7.4 °
Hardness Before Boiling	12.0 °
Hardness After Boiling	8.1 °
Temporary Hardness	3.9 °
This water is chemically of satisfactory quality.	

Bacteriological Report on Sample taken on 4th May, 1954 (Pump Well)

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37°C.
—Nil per 100 ml.

Somersal Water Supply

Sample taken on the 7th December, 1954, from the tap in Mr. Shirley's house, after chlorination.

<i>Chemical Analysis</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F.	30.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	1.25
Chlorine	3.4
Oxygen Absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	0.08
Appearance	Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination	None
pH Value	6.3
Hardness Before Boiling	12.4 °
Hardness After Boiling	10.3 °
Temporary Hardness	2.1
This water is chemically pure.	

Bacteriological Report on Sample taken on 7th Dec., 1954

Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37°C.
—Nil per 100 ml.

Bramshall Water Supply—Well

The report of a chemical examination of a water sample taken on the 29th April, 1954 (from inlet chamber to reservoir after chlorination) is as follows :—

<i>Chemical Analysis</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F.	18.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0012
Albuminoid	0.0040
Nitric Nitrogen	1.0
Chlorine	1.9
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	0.062
Appearance	Trace of suspended matter
Injurious Metallic Contamination	None
pH Value	5.4
Hardness Before Boiling	6.4°
Hardness After Boiling	5.4°
Temporary Hardness	1.0°
This water is chemically of satisfactory quality.	

Bacteriological Report on Sample taken on the 29th April, 1955 (after Chlorination)—Well

Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37°C.
—Nil per 100ml.

During 1954 a sample of water was taken from a tap at the Recreation Ground—after chlorination—and the water was a mixture of Crumpwood and Bramshall main supply. Here the report was : Probable coliform per 100 ml.—Nil.

Bramshall Water Supply

The diverted water has not yet been taken into the supply, as the examination of that water was unsatisfactory. All steps have been taken to avoid pollution of the gathering ground and an informal agreement has been made with the nearby farmer ; this has been possible through his kindness and understanding.

Drainage and Sewerage

The drainage and sewerage have been reasonably satisfactory during the year, except in heavy rainfall and the melting of snow, although the need for additional storm water tanks as reported in the reports for 1950 still exists. Plans are now prepared for the construction of a new trunk main from a point in Park Avenue to the Sewage Works, in order to deal effectively with the sewage from the new housing scheme. It has not been possible to carry out this work in 1953. The existing sewage disposal plant is now

working at almost full capacity, but the effluent is satisfactory. The question of Flooding is under consideration, and the Consultants have been asked to advise on the abating of Flooding.

Trade Waste from Wilts United Dairies is discharged into the Hockley Brook after being treated by filtration, as the Council sewers and sewage purification works cannot deal with such a large amount of milk waste. During 1954 the discharge into the brook has shown considerable improvement and no gross pollution occurred. (Reports from Trent River Board).

Nightsoil Service

28 Pail Closets in the area are dealt with by U.R.D.C. Nightsoil Service at a cost of 1/- per closet for each emptying.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

There are 48 factories in the Urban area ; 38 are mechanical and 10 non-mechanical. As in previous years, the occupiers of the various factories in your district were again during 1954 most co-operative, and no difficulty was experienced in having those Sections of the Factory Act which it is the responsibility of this Council to enforce carried out.

44 inspections were made during the year with respect to these factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 of the Act are enforced by this Authority, and no written notice was served and no prosecutions were necessary. In 3 instances defects with respect to Section 1 of the Act—want of cleanliness—were found and 2 subsequently remedied. Ineffective drainage of floors, Section 6, one case. Two cases were also found under Section 7 of the Act, regarding defective sanitary conveniences, but not remedied by the end of the year. No case of overcrowding was found. There is no outwork in this area.

HOUSING

During the year under review 42 houses were completed by this Authority and 8 houses were erected in the district by private enterprise.

1. Houses completed in 1954

(a) Number of houses completed by Council—42.

Types

14 Houses Type “ L ”	.....	2 Bedrooms
16 ” ” “ J ”	.....	2 Bedrooms
12 ” ” “ K ”	.....	2 Bedrooms

(b) Number of Houses erected by private enterprise—8.

(c) Number of Bungalows—Nil.

2. Houses under construction as at 31st December, 1954

(a) Number of Houses under Construction by Council—50.

Scheme 2—46 House Contract Copes Park Estate, and 4 House Contract Pennycroft Road.

Types

24 " Q " Type	.....	.....	3 Bedrooms
10 " K " Type	.....	.....	2 Bedrooms
12 " L " Type	.....	.....	2 Bedrooms
4 " O " Type	.....	.....	3 Bedrooms

(b) Number of houses in course of erection by Private Enterprise—6.

3. Schemes for 1955

(a) 42 House Contract Scheme 3, Copes Park Estate.

Types

18 " Q " Type	.....	.....	3 Bedrooms
12 " O " Type	.....	.....	3 Bedrooms
12 " L " Type	.....	.....	2 Bedrooms

(b) 6 House Contract , Ext. 1, Scheme 2, Copes Park Estate.

Types

2 " L " Type	.....	.....	2 Bedrooms
4 " O " Type	.....	.....	3 Bedrooms

(c) 4 House Contract New Road. Higher Salary Group.

Type—4 " D " Type, Higher Salary Group.

The Council still owns land which awaits development, and is aware of the urgent need for the provision of services to allow of the further development of these housing estates, and is taking practicable steps to undertake this very large and heavy task. A comprehensive layout has been prepared for the Weaver Lodge and Bentley Housing Estates, comprising some 104.9 acres. There is a scheme in preparation to erect more houses on the Bentley Housing Estate.

The Council, at the end of the year, had a waiting list of 283 applicants for houses ; during the year 42 new houses were allocated.

Details of Applicants for Council Houses—Annual Report to the Medical Officer of Health

1. No. on the waiting list on 1st January, 1954 was 298.
2. No. on the waiting list on 31st December, 1954 was 283.
3. **Classification of applicants according to type of house required.**

	<i>Lodgers</i>		<i>Householders</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>New Houses</i>	<i>Old Houses</i>	<i>New Houses</i>	<i>Old Houses</i>	
(a) Requiring 2 Bedroomed House	.....49	12	38	7	106
(b) Requiring 3 Bedroomed house	.....50	13	60	20	143
(c) Requiring 4 Bedroomed house	..... 1	—	2	4	7
(d) Requiring Bungalows	6	—	16	5	27
	106	25	116	36	283

4. Classification of applicants according to the reason for application.

	<i>Residents</i>	<i>Non-Residents</i>	<i>Total</i>
(i) Overcrowded : Lodgers	26	11	37
(ii) Lodgers : Not overcrowded	72	22	94
(iii) Householders : Overcrowded	10	6	16
(iv) Householders in unfit houses	21	4	25
(v) Householders requiring better or more suitable accommodation	74	37	111
	203	80	283

DETAILS OF COUNCIL HOUSES

(a) Flats	20
(b) Bungalows including Pre-Fabs	50
(c) 2 Bedroomed Houses	183
(d) 3 Bedroomed Houses	425
(e) 4 Bedroomed Houses	49
	727
(f) Houses regarded as cottage property and owned by the Council	14
	741

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Section 11.

An undertaking has been given by respective owners of 8 houses not to re-occupy for human habitation when they become vacant and this will be followed by their demolition in due course.

11. Housing Statistics.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(i) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Act)	68
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	68
(ii) (a) No. of dwelling houses (included under sub- head (1) above) which were inspected and rec- orded under the Housing Consolidated Regula- tions, 1925	Nil
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(iii) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(iv) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	33

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers40

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of The Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.

Only informal notices have been served and have been included in previous parts of the report.

(ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners. See remarks under item (i).

(b) By local authority in default of owners. See remarks under item (i).

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Act :

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.

Only formal notices have been served and have been included in previous parts of this report.

(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners. See remarks under item (i).

(b) By local authority in default of owners. See remarks under item (i).

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made5

(ii) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (3) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 19365

(iii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition OrderNil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were madeNil

(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fitNil.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

Meat

In preparing the Annual Report in previous years, in connection with the Inspection of Food, the report on Meat Inspection included all fresh and frozen meat not only for consumption in the Urban Area, but also that consumed in the Rural Area.

In addition to this, quite frequently animals slaughtered and inspected at the Ministry of Food Depot in Pinfold Street, were transported by the Ministry into districts which included Stoke, Stone, Burton, Birmingham and Nottingham.

The records of all inspections were contained in a bound book made up of forms M/COND/1 supplied and retained by the Ministry, and the details which have previously been given in my report were abstracted therefrom.

For the year under consideration, namely 1954, the first six months from January to the end of June, the supply of meat was still being rationed, and the inspection made as in previous years at the Pinfold Street Depot.

In order to supply the details for this six months period because the rationing of meat ceased on June 30th, and the Control ceased, I applied in the usual manner for the loan of the record books, from the Ministry of Food, and they informed me that such books had been lodged with the Public Record Office Repository and they would have them sent on to me. They have since written to say that such records cannot be found, therefore the particulars for the first half of the year under consideration cannot be given.

It should, however, be specially noted that such figures would bear no comparison with the details for the second half of the year, because the meat inspected and recorded only included the animals slaughtered and consumed within the Urban Area, and will not include the meat of some of the local butchers who purchase their supplies from outside the Urban Area as dead meat, the inspection of which is made by the Authority in whose district they are slaughtered.

The tabulated list of Carcases Inspected and Condemned for the period from July 1st to December 31st, 1954, is as follows.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

1st July to 31st December, 1954.

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	420	9	1,617	1,973
Number inspected	420	9	1,617	1,973
All diseases except Tuberculosis				
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	27	—	11	16
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis	6.43	—	0.68	0.81
Tuberculosis Only				
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	26	—	—	17
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.19	—	—	0.86

Condemned Carcases for England, 1954

I regret that the details given for 1951 have not been made available for 1954.

Condemned Fresh Meat is disposed of by the Ministry of Food.

Other Foodstuffs

Inspection and supervision was also carried out throughout the year with respect to food stuffs in tins, packages and cartons where stored or displayed for sale. Condemnation Certificates were issued for such foodstuffs as were considered unfit for human consumption.

All condemned Foodstuffs (other than Meat), if considered suitable as pig food, is disposed of as such.

Ice Cream

Periodic inspections of the premises of various ice cream vendors was carried out during the year, and conditions were found to be generally satisfactory, and the premises are licensed under the Ice Cream Regulations, 1947-52—24 Premises so licensed.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Informal action has been taken where caravans have been established without permission. Two caravans have been sanctioned in a back garden for the accommodation of some of the inhabitants of the house.

INSPECTION OF LICENSED PREMISES

During 1954 considerable improvement has been effected. Two remain to be provided with separate sanitary accommodation.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

No Offensive Trades are carried on within the Urban area.

CONTEMPLATED SCHEMES

Water Supply

A Public Enquiry is likely to be held shortly in connection with the additional supply of water to be taken from the Hulme Springs at Alton, after which it is proposed to immediately collect such supply and convey it to the Pumping Station at Crumpwood and thence into general supply.

Additional Pumping Plant has been installed at Crumpwood ; this will be followed by a new rising main to Prestwood Reservoir.

An additional 10in., trunk main from Prestwood Reservoir to Rocester is to be laid which will afterwards be continued to Uttoxeter.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Consultants have been instructed to report on a scheme of improvement and enlargement of the existing works, bearing in mind the taking into such works, the trade effluent from the Wilts United Dairies at Brookside Uttoxeter, on terms to be agreed.

Technical information and appropriate data are being prepared by my department as requested from time to time by the Consultants.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During 1954 the number of notifications received with respect to the various Infectious Diseases, other than Tuberculosis, was as follows :—

<i>Infectious Disease</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>	<i>Admitted to Hospital</i>
Whooping Cough	14	—
Measles	1	—
Scarlet Fever	21	16
Erysipelas	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	Nil	—
Food Poisoning	4	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	1
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Nil	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—
Dysentery	Nil	—
Para Typhoid	1	—
	<hr/> 45	<hr/> 17

Of these, 16 cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted to hospital. In 1954 there were no deaths from infectious diseases, and no notifications were received for Diphtheria.

There were 3 deaths from Secondary Pneumonia during 1954.

In 1954, no cases of Diphtheria or of Ophthalmic Neonatorum were notified. The last case of Diphtheria was in 1947 and one case of Paralytic Poliomyelitis occurred in 1954. The number of cases notified of Whooping Cough and Measles have decreased. In the case of Scarlet Fever the number has slightly decreased, the greater number occurred in the age group 5—9 years. In the case of Whooping Cough the greater number occurred in age group 5—9. The number of cases of Scarlet Fever for 1954 is the third highest on record since 1943.

Regarding Measles, the number of cases has decreased from 19 in 1953 to 1 in 1954. The age group involved was 1—2.

With regard to the occurrence of Whooping Cough under 2 years the incidence was 42.8%.

The incidence in 5—9 years in Whooping Cough is 57.1%.

During 1954 the number of cases of Whooping Cough decreased by $33\frac{1}{3}\%$, and in the case of Measles only one case occurred. With regard to the months in which most cases occurred, Whooping Cough, September and December; Measles, the only case was in June.

FOOD POISONING

In the first quarter of the year 4 cases were notified as Suspected Food Poisoning. They were all in the same family. On investigation it was proved that the cause was not a Food Poisoning Germ.

Para Typhoid B. Infection

During the 4th quarter, 1 case was found in an adult male due to infected food which he had eaten while abroad. He responded well to treatment and was able to carry on with his work which did not involve handling food in any way.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—SCHOOLS

During 1954, 4 visits were made to the Infants School with regard to Scarlet Fever—on each occasion no carrier was found or in a missed case.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE GROUP.

AGE PERIOD IN YEARS.

	Under 1 year	1—2 years	3—4 years	5—9 years	10—14 years	15—24 years	25 years and over	Totals	Total
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	
Whooping Cough	- 1	1 1	1 2	2 6	- -	- -	- -	4 10	14
Measles	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1
Scarlet Fever	- -	1 -	2 1	7 7	- 2	- -	1 -	11 10	21
Erysipelas	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 2	1 -	1 2	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1 -	1
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Dysentery	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Para Typhoid	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	1 -	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—INCIDENCE IN 1954 COMPARED WITH ELEVEN PREVIOUS YEARS.

Disease.	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (Non-civilian)	1	3	13	2 (1 Non-civilian)
Scarlet Fever ...	21	24	6	8	7	6	8	12	24	12	9	12 (1 Non-civilian)
Whooping Cough	14	22	60	32	49	32	40	—	19	5	11	56
Measles	1	19	114	6	194	17	22	89	2	63	149	13
Erysipelas	3	5	—	1	2	1	4	3	—	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	3
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1 (Non-civilian)
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) (Non-Paralytic)	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para Typhoid	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1954—MONTHS OF OCCURRENCE.

Month	DISEASE.								Pul. Tubercul.	Surg. Tub.	Para Typhoid
	Whooping Cough	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Erysip- elas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Poliomye- litis (Para- lytic)	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Dysentry			
January	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
June	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
October	1	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
November	6	—	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December	4	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	14	1	21	3	—	1	—	—	2	—	1

QUARTERLY RETURNS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THIS URBAN DISTRICT FOR 1954.

Quarter	DISEASE.														
	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Paralytic Polio- myelitis	Non- Paralytic Polio- myelitis	Measles	Diph- theria	Erysipe- las	Cerebro spinal Fever	Food Poisoning	Ophthal- mia	Dysen- tery	Pneu- monia	Typhoid	Para- typhoid	Puerperal Fever
First	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Second	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Third	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fourth	16	11	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	21	14	1	—	1	—	3	—	4	—	—	1	—	1	—

For your information I append in table form the number of Infectious Diseases in each quarter for Urban Districts in this County. (25)

Quarter	DISEASE.										TUBERCULOSIS		
	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Typhoid Fever	Acute Pneumonia	Dysentery	Paralytic Poliomyelitis	Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	Food Poisoning	Respir- atory	CNS	Others	24.6	0.32
First	167	6	—	168	348	3	—	8	173	2	8		
Second	181	1	1	145	321	2	—	24	173	1	17		
Third	124	2	1	51	47	10	2	35	127	2	2		
Fourth.....	189	8	1	118	24	6	—	22	142	3	19		
TOTALS	661	17	3	452	740	21	2	89	615	8	66		
Yearly Av. for all Urban Districts in Staffs. (25)	26.4	0.6	0.12	18.08	29.6	0.8	0.08	3.5	24.6	0.32	2.6		

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—NOTIFICATIONS, YEAR 1954

Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1954.

Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	<i>Uttoxeter Urban District</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—		
Typhoid Fever	—	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.13	0.01
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	0.02
Scarlet Fever	2.8	N.K.
Whooping Cough	1.8	2.39
Diphtheria	—	0.01
Erysipelas	0.4	0.01
Smallpox	—	—
Measles	0.13	0.33
Pneumonia	0.13	0.60
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	0.13	0.03
do. (Non-Paralytic)	—	0.01
Food Poisoning	0.5	N.K.
Notifications (Corrected) Rates per 1,000		
Total Live and Still Births :—		
Puerperal Pyrexia and Fever	—	17.74

For previous years the Registrar General has supplied the details for England and Wales, but this has been discontinued. Where possible I have recorded them.

The items marked N.K.—I have not been able to ascertain.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the responsibility has passed to the Local Health Authority, upon which is laid the obligation to arrange for the immunisation of all persons in the area of the authority (Section 26). As in previous years it was possible during 1954 for parents to have their children immunised by their own family doctor free of charge. Immunisation was also available at the Infant Welfare Centre in Uttoxeter, and special immunising sessions were also held at the various schools in Uttoxeter.

The number of children in the Uttoxeter Urban District Council area who completed a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria during 1954 was as follows :—

Children of less than 1 year of age	.....	.....	17
Children aged 1—14 years of age	.....	.....	42
			—
			59
			—
Number of children aged 5—14 years who received a single reinforcing injection	.....		135

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SINCE 1944.

Year	Number Protected		Total	Number receiving reinforcing doses
	Children under 1 year	Children 1—14 years		
1954	17	42	59	135
1953	64	16	80	92
1952	78	28	106	174
1951	70	7	77	51
1950	50	10	60	12
1949	101	7	108	76
1948	100	62	162	74
1947	130	23	153	129
1946	105	2	107	NIL
1945	74	14	88	NIL
1944	51	2	53	NIL

The above figures refer only to children whose record of immunisation has been received in the public health department. The estimated percentage of the mid-1954 child population in your district immunised against Diphtheria up to the 31st December, 1954 was as follows :—

Under 5 years of age	.....	.....	.....	.....	81.6
5—14 years of age	.....	.....	.....	.....	87.6
All children	.....	.....	.....	.....	84.6

During 1954 no notifications were received with respect to this disease—The last case being in 1947.

Diphtheria Inoculations

The estimated percentage of child population in your district immunised against Diphtheria in 1954 has dropped in all age groups.

An inoculation campaign was held during 1954, but I should like to see the percentage of the under 5 years to be at least 85%.

I feel that the decrease in under 5 years is partially due to the mothers having their young children immunised against Whooping Cough in the first case, then having the Diphtheria Inoculations—thus the slight drop.

**INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE UTTOXETER
URBAN DISTRICT IN THE LAST FIFTEEN YEARS.**

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number of Cases.</i>		
1954	Nil
1953	Nil
1952	Nil
1951	Nil
1950	Nil
1949	Nil
1948	Nil
1947	1 (Non-Civilian)
1946	1
1945	3
1944	13
1943	2 (Non-Civilian)
1942	3 " "
1941	3
1940	3

Average annual incidence (including non-civilian cases), 1.9.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases

Notifications were received during the year with respect to 2 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Deaths

There were no deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and none from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The age and sex distribution of these new cases and deaths were as shown below :—

New Cases.

Age Periods	Pulmonary		Total	Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female		Male	Female	
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 Years	2	—	2	—	—	—
45 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	2	—	2	—	—	—

Total New Cases — Two

One Pulmonary case was admitted to a sanatorium.

Deaths

Age Periods	Pulmonary		Total	Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female		Male	Female	
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total Deaths None

Death Rate from Tuberculosis

Per 1,000 Population

Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	NIL
Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis	NIL
Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis	NIL

Tuberculosis in the Uttoxeter Urban District, showing for each of the last eleven years the new cases and the deaths, classified as Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary. The Death Rate per 1,000,000 population from all forms is also given.

Year	Population	New Cases		Deaths		Death Rates per 1,000,000 population
		Pul.	Non-Pul	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
1954	7,530	2	—	—	—	—
1953	7,391	5	4	1	1	270
1952	7,400	1	2	—	—	—
1951	7,427	5	—	3	1	220
1950	7,330	5	1	1	1	270
1949	7,440	6	1	2	—	220
1948	7,280	6	4	2	1	412
1947	6,964	3	4	6	1	1,005
1946	6,838	7	1	4	—	580
1945	6,618	2	—	1	—	151
1944	6,791	3	—	6	—	884
1943	6,883	6	—	2	1	436

Table of Death Rates per 1,000 for other Districts in this County :—

Uttoxeter Rural District	0.18
--------------------------------	------

Results of Milk Samples for 1954

The following results have been received from the County Medical Officer of Health :—

	<i>Per cent. Failed</i>	<i>Results</i>			<i>T.B.</i>
		<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Examination for Cleanliness</i>		
			<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	
Uttoxeter Urban	13.3%	112	96	16	1
Uttoxeter Rural	12.01%	208	183	25	14

The test used for cleanliness is known as the Methylene Blue Test. It is pleasing to note that the results for 1954 are low but

1.1% more than the 1953 figure. In the cases where the cleanliness examination was unsatisfactory I requested the co-operation of the Area Milk Production Officer. Where Tubercle Bacilli were found I enlisted the co-operation of the Ministry of Agriculture Inspector.

Control of Ice Lollies

Although no difficulties have been experienced in this area, I feel I should draw to your notice that there is at present no legal control.

Many areas are urging their Urban Association to press the Minister of Health to exercise his power and make a regulation laying down minimum standards of composition and authorising registration of Premises where the lollies are manufactured.

At present the examination of such, yields a wide variation, the total solids, including sugars, range from 21% to 0.56%. Some contain a relatively large amount of saccharin. Some contain fruit juice, milk or ice cream—in this one case it is felt that this special type of lolly should be the subject of special standards.

Effect of Agenised Bread—Nitrogen Trichloride

To most flour used in the making of bread, Agene is added to bleach the flour. It is claimed by certain doctors that Agene is at least one of the causative factors in human beings of nerve disorders and disease of the stomach. At present the Medical Research Council, in association with the Ministries of Food and Health, are investigating the question and no official report has been issued.

Fog

Fog occurred in January, February and March, also in last 2 months of the year—14 days in 1954—No Smog.

Total Rainfall

37.40 inches. 2nd highest recorded rainfall, 7.19 inches above last period average.

Snow

8.1 inches—First three months and December.

Total Sunshine

1,251 hours. (1953, 1,348½) 92 hours under average. There were 110 sunless days.

Winds

January	.....	.....	Westerly.
February	.....	.....	Cold East.
March	.....	.....	Cold East.
April	.....	.....	Westerly.
May	.....	.....	Cold North and North-East.
June	.....	.....	Westerly.
July.....	.....	.....	Westerly.

August	.....	.....	Westerly.
September	.....	.....	Westerly.
October	.....	.....	South-West.
November	.....	.....	West-East.
December	.....	.....	West.

WEATHER SUMMARY

Monthly 1954

January

Cold and dry.

February

Cold and bright, frequent night frosts.

March

A variable month.

April

Driest April on record.

May

Cool and dull.

June

Wet, dull and cool.

July

Dull and Wet.

August

Dull and wet.

September

Warm and sunny by day—rain by night.

Thunderstorm on the 10th.

October

Mainly mild and dull—later wet.

November

Dull and wet—Wettest month of the year.

December

Mild and dull.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROPAGANDA

No exhibition was staged during 1954, but during the year advisory information was sent to all food shops, cafes and canteens.

Dog Notice cards are displayed in Food Shops, Cafes and Restaurants.

I am glad to report that all help was accepted in the spirit in which it was sent—To Help.

Number of Food Shops of all types, 67.

Number of Ice Cream Shops, 24.

Number of Premises Registered for Manufacture of Sausages, etc., 9.

Number “Registered” as Dairies is 8.

The above shops are regularly inspected as well as the foods sold.

SUMMARY OF MONTHLY REPORTS, 1954

Details supplied by Mr. Smith, Meteorological Station, 2nd Order,
sited at factory of Messrs. C. H. Elkes & Sons, Uttoxeter—295 ft. above M.S.L.

Month	Shade Temperature Mean Max. Min. degrees F.	Mean Earth Temper- ature at 4ft. degrees F.	Mean Humidity at 9 hours %	Total Rain- fall "	No. of days with 0.01" or more	No. of days with 0.04" or more	Tempera- ture Max. Min. degrees F.	Total Sun- shine hours	No. of days of			Thun- der	Fog Visi- bility under 500 yds.	Ground Frost 30.4 degrees or under	In Milli- metres. Air Pressure. Min. Max.
									Snow	Snow lying at 9 hrs.	Max. depth noted "				
Jan.	41.9—30.9	39.5	80.8	1.31"	15	10	56—22	50½	4	3	1"	—	1	22	741—774
Feb.	41.3—29.6	36.4	83.8	2.34"	19	13	51—16	58½	6	9	2"	—	2	22	732—770
March	48.5—35.3	39.4	82.1	1.93"	12	10	60—20	93½	1	1	4"	—	3	17	724—764
April	54.5—35.9	43.4	75.4	0.44"	6	5	61—28	168½	—	—	—	—	—	19	751—774
May	61 —42.5	47.3	79.5	2.28"	14	13	79—30	129½	—	—	—	1	—	8	737—766
June	63.1—48.5	52.7	82.4	3.8"	17	14	71—40	140½	—	—	—	1	—	—	740—763
July	64 —49.6	55.4	81.5	2.68"	21	14	73—39	146	—	—	—	—	—	—	Mean of 755
August	65.4—49.3	56.5	84.5	4"	19	17	77—40	131½	—	—	—	3	—	—	740—764
Sept.	62.6—46.0	54.7	81	3.69"	23	18	63—32	167	—	—	—	1	—	—	745—762
Oct.	59.1—45.9	52	85	5.19"	22	18	68—27	84½	—	—	—	1	—	1	744—768
Nov.	49.9—35.5	45.6	81.9	5.55"	20	16	56—26	51	—	—	—	—	7	9	727—772
Dec.	47.9—37.6	41.8	81.8	4.19"	22	15	57—28	23½	3	—	—	—	1	7	715—766

Action under National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

During 1954 no Court action was necessary, as all cases were persuaded to go to a Home or to relations or to be cared for at home by a friend or relations.

MILK SAMPLING RESULTS—1954

Completed from Reports received by the Public Health Department during the year

- 1. Methylene Blue Test—A test for Bacterial Activity**
112 Milk Samples Tested—of which 96 passed and 16 failed.
- 2. Phosphates Test—for efficiency of Pasteurisation.**
55 samples were tested and all passed.
- 3. Bacteriological Test for Tubercle Bacilli.**
31 samples were tested—30 passed and 1 failed.
- 4. Turbidity Test—for efficiency of Sterilization.**
None required.
- 5. Test for Abortus Fever Germ.**
None required.
- 6. Diversion Orders.**
One was placed on the milk which yielded the positive biological test from 2nd February to 22nd March, 1954. The offending animal was traced and it was found to have tuberculosis of the udder when killed but no external lesion was seen on the udder by the Veterinary Surgeon.
- 7. Joint Urban and Rural Milk Meetings, 14th April and 21st May.**
Two Meetings were held during the year, the first Meeting was attended by the Milk Production Officer and representatives from both Councils and at the second Meeting, the County Medical Officer of Health and the County Sanitary Inspector and the County Milk Production Officer attended as well as representatives from both Councils.

I feel much useful information was received at both Meetings and they served a useful purpose.

The main difficulty being the undesignated milk which has no legal standards as regards the Methylene Blue Test.

MILK BOTTLE STERILITY TEST

During 1954, clean empty milk bottles from 2 milk retailers were subjected to this test and the mean colony count per bottle was found to be satisfactory, the count being 200 per bottle. Six bottles were used for each retailer.

Action under Diseases of Animals Act

- 1. Anthrax Order—1938.**
1 notification received but not confirmed when examined by the Veterinary Surgeon.

2. Tuberculosis Order—1938.

No animals dealt with.

3. Swine Fever—1938.

No notifications received.

Action under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

During 1954 it was found necessary to place one Diversion Order, in the one case where the biological test was found positive as the milk, before being used by the public, was not subjected to heat treatment (pasteurised), and in such a case the regulations allow an order.

Clean Food Guild

During 1954 the question of a Clean Food Guild was re-considered by the Public Health Committee, and it was considered a wise step, but it was decided to postpone the formation of such a Guild for the present.

Joint Committee for the Care of the Aged

The Joint Committee meets at regular periods, and a Home has been opened in Uttoxeter to serve the district.

The Home serves a most useful purpose and they are well cared for and lastly, they are happy.

I should like to convey my personal thanks to all who made the Home a reality.

INDEX

	Page
PREAMBLE	1
List of Members of Health Committee	3
Statistics and Social Conditions of Area	3
Extracts from Vital Statistics	4
Principal Causes of Death	5
Vital Statistics of 1954 and Previous Years	6
Cancer Deaths	6
Population	7
Birth Rates, Death Rates for Uttoxeter and Other Areas	7
General Health Service Provisions	7
Sanitary Circumstances	10
Housing	14
Inspection of Food	18
Moveable Dwellings	20
Inspection of Licensed Premises	20
Infectious Disease	26
Diphtheria Immunisation	27
Tuberculosis	29
Results of Milk Samples—(1954)	30
Control of Ice Lollies	31
Effect of Agenised Bread	31
Result of Fog (Local)	31
Weather Summary	32
Winds	31
Total Rainfall	31
Total Sunshine	31
Health Propaganda	32
Summary of Meteorological Readings	33
Action under Section 47, National Assistance Act	34
Action under Diseases of Animals Act	34
Action under Milk and Dairies Regulations	35
Clean Food Guild	35
Joint Committee for the Care of the Aged	35

